

Report details INL site's significant impacts on Idaho

In 2006, Boise State University's College of Business and Economics evaluated the effects on the Idaho economy of all cleanup, research and administrative operations at the INL site. The *Impacts 2006* report details the results of this latest comprehensive research and demonstrates to stakeholders the significant and positive effects INL-site operations have on the region immediately surrounding our facilities, as well as on the entire state.

The report provides an analysis of three dimensions of the lab's contributions to the state and region. The first is INL's impact on employment, personal income and total output for the state. The report also assesses the impacts of the lab and its employees on state and local tax revenues. Third, the study examines the effects of INL-site employees' charitable contributions, educational outreach and volunteer activities on the surrounding communities and the state. The report measures direct, secondary and tertiary impacts of INL's operations.

Photo: Employment chart

Major findings of *Impacts 2006* include:

- The INL site, when considered as a whole, is the third-largest employer in Idaho, with 8,452 employees, ranking behind only Micron and state government. When secondary and tertiary impacts on employment are analyzed, INL operations annually account for 19,860 jobs in Idaho.
- Wages and salaries to INL site employees account for more than 2.5 percent of personal income in Idaho with direct and secondary effects on personal income amounting to \$1.108 billion annually.
- Fiscal impacts of Idaho state tax revenues by the INL site and its employees approach \$85 million or nearly 3 percent of all tax revenues received by the state.
- These direct tax payments to the state of Idaho by INL employers and their workers exceed the cost of state-provided services by a broad margin.
- Annual property tax payments by INL employees approach \$23 million.
- The INL site provides \$3.4 million to Idaho colleges and universities for continuing education of its employees.

INL—including all contractor and agency operations at the INL site—is the third-largest employer in Idaho, with 8,452 employees.

The research for *Impacts 2006* was performed by three highly respected BSU economists - Dr. Geoffrey Black, chair of the Economics Department; Dr. Don Holley, former corporate economic forecaster and analyst and now a visiting professor; and John Church, former corporate economist and now special lecturer in the Economics Department and a member of the Western Blue Chip Forecast Panel.

In their summary comments, the researchers conclude, "Whether improving quality of life through the development and commercialization of cutting-edge technologies, reducing risks through accelerated environmental cleanup, providing much-needed tax revenues, or stabilizing and strengthening Idaho's economy by its mere presence, INL's overall impacts on Idaho are unquestionably significant."

Idaho legislators attending the annual INL Legislative Day luncheon on February 27 were briefed on the *Impacts 2006* report by Dr. Black.

[Download](#) the full *Impacts 2006* report (2.3MB PDF).

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